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Disclosure on Plane Assailed Anew

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 (AP) — Allies of Ronald Reagan joined the Republican Presidential nominee today in charging that President Carter was bending the nation's military policies for political advantage.

Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., retired, a former Chief of Naval Operations, said that "there appears to be no doubt" that President Carter personally authorized disclosure of the Stealth project, to develop an aircraft invisible to radar, so as to counter criticism of his decision to cancel the B-1 bomber.

Admiral Zumwalt made the charge in a letter to Rear Adm. William Thompson, retired, that was made public today by Senator Richard G. Lugar, Republican of Indiana. Senator Lugar called for an investigation of the matter by the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The letter said: "There appears to be no doubt, based on my contacts with the White House staff and Pentagon officials, that the decision was made by the President to disclose the existence of this technology, and that the method chosen was first to 'leak' its existence and then be forced to confirm the leak.

Harm to Security Alleged

"The decision to disclose this technology, even if it had been done in response to an inadvertent rather than a deliberate leak, was, in my judgment, unbelievably harmful to the national security."

More criticism of the Carter Administration came from Lieut. Gen. Brent Scowcroft of the Air Force, retired, a national security adviser under President Ford. He contended today that the Soviet

Union got a major break with the disclosure of the existence of the Stealth technology.

General Scowcroft made his comments at a news conference at the National Press Club. He appeared with two other Reagan advisers, Ray Cline, a former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and John Lehman, a former deputy director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in the Ford Administration. They said they were appearing under the auspices of the Republican National Committee's surrogate speakers program.

General Scowcroft acknowledged that existence of the Stealth program had been mentioned from time to time in professional journals and elsewhere. He said the real damage done by a news conference on Aug. 22, at which Defense Secretary Harold Brown announced the existence of the Stealth program, was that it let the Soviet Union know exactly where to concentrate its intelligence efforts and how to deploy its resources to match and possibly counter the Stealth technology.

Carter Has Denied Harm

President Carter made his first public comment on the matter yesterday, denying that his Administration harmed the national security by disclosing the existence of the research and calling the claims being raised by Mr. Reagan and other Republicans "cheap politics."

"This is an absolutely irresponsible and false charge by Governor Reagan and by a carefully orchestrated group of Republicans," Mr. Carter told reporters while campaigning in Perth Amboy, N.J.